

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11 and 14 are amended. Support for the amendments to these claims may be found on p. 9, lines 19-21, Fig. 7 and original claims 4, 9 and 14, for example. No new matter is added. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP-A-06-266516 to Yukiko in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0063892 to Tsukada, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0186275 to Usui. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action, on page 3, acknowledges that Yukiko does not disclose storing device representing print specifications for the plurality of printing devices and a document definition file storage section for storing one or more document definition files. The Office Action asserts that Usui supplies subject matter missing from Yukiko. However, Usui does not disclose a format converting section for determining an actual print area according to at least one of the resolution, the size and the margins of the device information and converting print-request data into a print format for a specified printing device based on a ratio between a length ... and a length, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 6 and 11.

Usui is directed to a printing system in which a management unit 10 converts printing data based on color conversion data registered in color conversion tables 11 (paragraph [0065]). Thus, when a common electronic printing job is carried out by two or more printers 21, each of the printers 21 can serve printing mediums identical in color (paragraph [0134]). However, Usui does not disclose any other conversion of the printing data than the color conversion described above. Thus, Usui does not disclose, and would not have suggested, a format converting section for determining an actual print area according to at least one of the

resolution, the size and the margins of the device information and converting print-request data into a print format for a specified printing device based on a ratio between a length ... and a length, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 6 and 11. Tsukada is not applied in any way that would overcome the shortfall in the application of Usui to the subject matter of claims 1, 6 and 11.

In view of the above, the combination of Yukiko, Usui and Tsukada would not have suggested the subject matter recited in claims 1, 6 and 11. Claims 2-5, 7-10 and 12-15 variously depend from claims 1, 6 and 11. Thus, the combination of the applied references would not have suggested the subject matter recited in these claims for at least the respective dependence of these claims directly or indirectly on an allowable base claim, and also based on the additional allowable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Request for Continued Examination

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